AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 2, 6 and 8 without prejudice or disclaimer; amend claims 3-5 and 9-15; and add claims 16-20 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing and/or treating interstitial cystitis ~~by~~ in a subject comprising administering to a subject in need thereof ~~an~~ therapeutically effective amount of a vitamin D compound, thereby preventing and/or treating interstitial cystitis in said subject.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~use or~~ method of ~~any one of~~ claim[s] ~~1 to~~ 3, wherein said interstitial cystitis is characterized by the presence of symptoms of bladder dysfunction and bladder inflammation.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~use or~~ method of ~~any one of~~ claim[s] ~~1 to 4~~3 wherein the vitamin D compound is administered separately, sequentially or simultaneously in separate or combined pharmaceutical formulations with a second medicament for the treatment of interstitial cystitis.

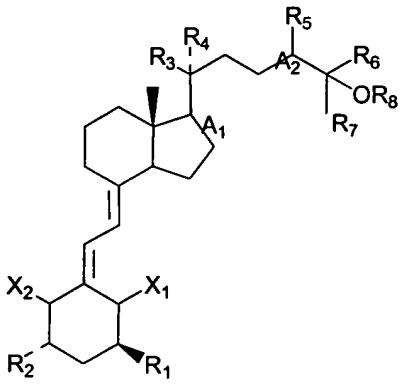
6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a vitamin D compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier packaged with instructions for use in the prevention and/or treatment of interstitial cystitis.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A kit ~~containing~~comprising a vitamin D compound together with instructions directing administration of said compound to a ~~patient~~subject in need of treatment and/or prevention of interstitial cystitis thereby to treat and/or prevent interstitial cystitis in said patient.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~use,~~ method~~, formulation, compound or kit of any one~~ of claim[s 1 to 9]3, wherein said vitamin D compound is a compound of the formula:



wherein:

A_1 is single or double bond;

A_2 is a single, double or triple bond;

X_1 and X_2 are each independently H or $=CH_2$, provided X_1 and X_2 are not both $=CH_2$;

R_1 and R_2 are each independently $OC(O)C_1$-C_4 alkyl, OC(O)hydroxyalkyl, OROC(O)haloalkyl, OAc;

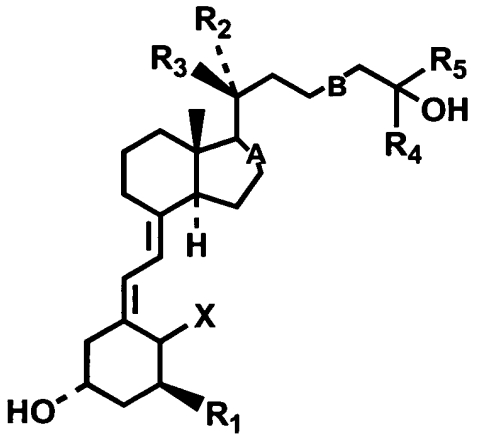
R_3, R_4 and R_5 are each independently hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, or haloalkyl, or R_3 and R_4 taken together with C_{20} form C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl; and

R_6 and R_7 are each independently C_{1-4}alkyl or haloalkyl; and

R_8 is H, -COC_1-C_4alkyl, -COhydroxyalkyl or -COhaloalkyl; and

pharmaceutically acceptable esters, salts, and prodrugs thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~use,~~ method~~, formulation, compound or kit of any one~~ of claim[s 1 to 9]3, wherein said vitamin D compound is a compound of the formula:



wherein:

X is H_2 or CH_2;

R_1 is hydrogen, hydroxy or fluorine;

R_2 is hydrogen or methyl;

R_3 is hydrogen or methyl provided that when R_2 or R_3 is methyl, R_3 or R_2 must be hydrogen;

R_4 is methyl, ethyl or trifluoromethyl;

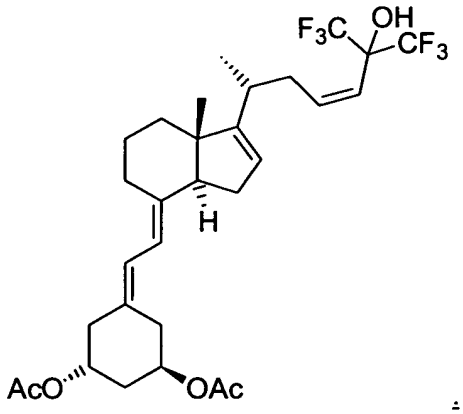
R_5 is methyl, ethyl or trifluoromethyl;

A is a single or double bond; and

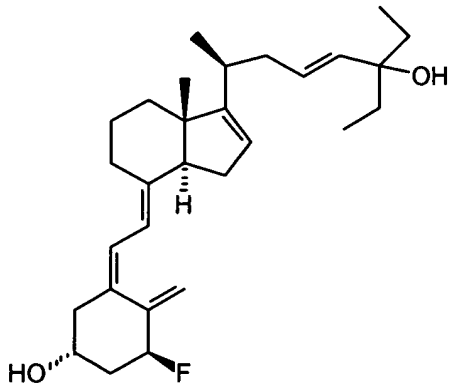
B is a single, E-double, Z-double or triple bond.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~use,~~ method~~, formulation, compound or kit~~ according to claim 11, wherein each of R_4 and R_5 is methyl or ethyl.

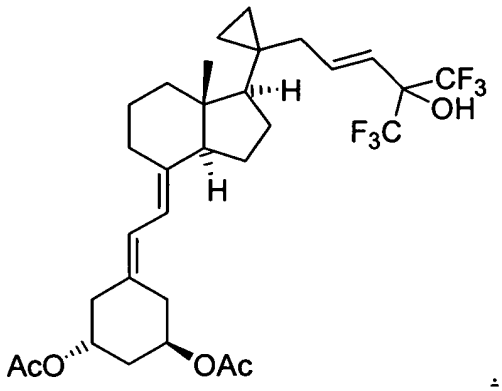
13. (Currently Amended) The ~~use,~~ method~~, formulation, compound or kit of any one~~ of claim[s] ~~1 to 9~~10, wherein said vitamin D compound is 1,3-Di-O-acetyl-1,25-dihydroxy-16,23Z-diene-26,27-hexafluoro-19-nor-cholecalciferol, having the formula:



14. (Currently Amended) The ~~use,~~ method~~, formulation, compound or kit of any one~~ of claim[s] ~~1 to 9~~11, wherein said vitamin D compound is 1-alpha-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16,23E-diene-26,27-bishomo-20-epi-cholecalciferol, having the formula:



15. (Currently Amended) The ~~use,~~ method~~, formulation, compound or kit of any one~~ of claim[s] ~~1 to 9~~10, wherein said compound is 1,3-Di-O-acetyl-1,25-dihydroxy-20-cyclopropyl-23E-ene-26,27-hexafluoro-19-nor-cholecalciferol, having the formula:.



16. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein said vitamin D compound is administered as a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the vitamin D compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier therefore.

17. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the subject is a mammal.

18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the mammal is a human.

19. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 7, wherein the instructions for use are in accordance with the method of claim 3.

20. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 9, wherein the instructions are in accordance with the method of claim 3.